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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

4 FEB 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:
7330-7/1700A3

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FEB - 8 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Tom Bevill
House of Representatives
2302 Rayburn House Office
Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bevill:

This is in reply to your letter of January 21, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, O. Bruce Underwood, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

Mr. Underwood is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

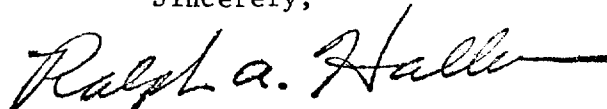
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We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituent's concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due February 26, 1993, and Reply Comments are due April 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued near the end of 1993. We urge your constituent to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Ralph A. Haller" with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ralph A. Haller
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:
Notice
Incoming correspondence

Congressional

DUE : 2-3-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
01/26/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300228	01/26/93	01/21/93	02/08/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congressman	Tom Bevill	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
O Bruce Underwood	info/comments on a docket

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/331	41000		
1-27-93	1-28-93		
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
01/26/93			

REMARKS:

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JAN 20 2 11 PM '93

TOM BEVILL
4TH DISTRICT, ALABAMA

DEPUTY WHIP

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0104

January 21, 1993

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*PRB
docket
228*

Ms. Ellen Rafferty
Congressional Liaison
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ellen:

RE: O. Bruce Underwood
1413 Gunter Avenue
P.O. Box 636
Guntersville, AL. 35976

The attached communication is submitted for your consideration, and to ask that the request made therein be complied with, if possible.

If you will advise me of your action on this matter and have the letter returned to me with your reply, I will appreciate it.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Tom Bevill, M. C.

TB/sf

*RECEIVED
JAN 29 2 05 PM '93*

01-12-93

The Honorable Tom Bevill
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bevill:

I am interested in Model Aviation and have constructed and flown Radio Control Models since their inception. I fly precision R/C acrobatic model competition in many parts of our nation, mostly in the South.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability for controlling model airplanes.

Our frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our control frequencies in this band are far enough apart to share the band without interfering with each other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. This will not work as it will create frequencies too close to safely operate model airplanes.

Please understand that many models have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 40 lbs. They are very expensive to build; but more to the point are capable of causing damage, injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly before hundreds of spectators and need our full complement of frequencies to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of the mobile radio users at the expense of R/C modelers.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of Radio Control flying by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "O. B. Underwood". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.